

Washington, DC- Friday, Congressman Harry Teague announced that over \$1.3 million in recovery funding will go to four community health centers in southern New Mexico, with three servicing rural areas. Grantees had previously submitted plans explaining how grant funds would be used. Strategies to expand services may include, but are not limited to, adding new providers, expanding hours of operations or expanding services.

"For many of the small and rural communities throughout my district, seeing a doctor often requires travel to a town miles away," said Congressman Harry Teague. "Getting our local health centers the funding they need to add new providers or expand their hours and services will help our rural communities stay healthy."

Health centers are community-based and patient-directed organizations that serve populations with limited access to health care. Among the services community health centers provide are regular health check-ups and immunizations. In 2007, approximately 36% of patients were children and about 7% were 65 or older.

Health Center:

Hidalgo Medical Services in Lordsburg -- \$237,776
De Baca Family Practice in Fort Sumner -- \$123,473
Ben Archer Health Center in Hatch --- \$558,664
La Clinica De Familia in Las Cruces -- \$472,430

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